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# Iron and silicon isotope behaviour accompanying weathering in Icelandic soils, and the implications for iron export from peatlands

Opfergelt S.<sup>1,2</sup>, Williams H.M.<sup>2,3</sup>, Cornelis J.T.<sup>1,4</sup>, Guicharnaud R.A.<sup>5,6</sup>, Georg R.B.<sup>2,7</sup>, Siebert C.<sup>2,8</sup>, Gislason S.R.<sup>5</sup>, Halliday A.N.<sup>2</sup>, Burton K.W.<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Earth and Life Institute, Université catholique de Louvain, Croix du Sud bte L7.05.10, 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

<sup>2</sup> Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford, South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3AN, United Kingdom

<sup>3</sup> Department of Earth Sciences, Durham University, DH1 3LE, Durham, United Kingdom

<sup>4</sup> Gembloux AgroBio-Tech, Université de Liège, Av. Maréchal Juin 27, 5030 Gembloux, Belgium

<sup>5</sup> Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland, Sturlugata 7, 101 Reykjavík, Iceland

<sup>6</sup> European Commission, Land Resource Management Unit, 21027 Ispra, Italy

<sup>7</sup> Trent University, Water Quality Centre, 1600 West Bank Dr., Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

<sup>8</sup> Geomar, Helmholtz Center for Ocean Research, Wischhofstrasse 1-3, 24146 Kiel, Germany

\*Corresponding author : UCL/ELIE, Croix du Sud 2 bte L7.05.10 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, Tel: +32 10 47 36 22, Fax: +32 10 47 45 25, E-mail : [sophie.opfergelt@uclouvain.be](mailto:sophie.opfergelt@uclouvain.be)

## Abstract

Incipient warming of peatlands at high latitudes is expected to modify soil drainage and hence the redox conditions, which has implications for Fe export from soils. This study uses Fe isotopes to assess the processes controlling Fe export in a range of Icelandic soils including peat soils derived from the same parent basalt, where Fe isotope variations principally reflect differences in weathering and drainage. In poorly weathered, well-drained soils (non-peat soils), the limited Fe isotope fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.11 \pm 0.12 \text{ ‰}$ ) is attributed to proton-promoted mineral dissolution. In the more weathered poorly drained soils (peat soils), the soil solutions are usually lighter than the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.41 \pm 0.32 \text{ ‰}$ ), which indicates that Fe has been mobilised by reductive mineral dissolution and/or ligand-controlled dissolution. The results highlight the presence of Fe-organic complexes in solution in anoxic conditions. An additional constraint on soil weathering is provided by Si isotopes. The Si isotope composition of the soil solutions relative to the soil ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) generally reflects the incorporation of light Si isotopes in secondary aluminosilicates. Under anoxic conditions in peat soils, the largest Si isotope fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil is observed ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 1.63 \pm 0.40 \text{ ‰}$ ) and attributed to the cumulative contribution of secondary clay minerals and amorphous silica precipitation. Si supersaturation in solution with respect to amorphous silica is reached upon freezing when Al availability to form aluminosilicates is limited by the affinity of Al for metal-organic complexes. Therefore, the precipitation of amorphous silica in peat soils indirectly supports the formation of metal-organic complexes in poorly drained soils. These observations highlight that in a scenario of decreasing soil drainage with warming high latitude peatlands, Fe export from soils as Fe-organic complexes will increase, which in turn has implications for Fe transport in rivers, and ultimately the delivery of Fe to the oceans.

**Keywords:** basalt weathering, volcanic soil, Iceland, Fe isotopes, Si isotopes, Fe export, peat soil

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Iron in rivers ultimately originates from mineral weathering and export from soils. Rivers are a major source of Fe to the ocean, and Fe is an essential nutrient for marine primary production (Morel et al., 1991; Poulton and Raiswell 2002; Martin and Fitzwater, 1988; Boyd et al., 2000; Smetacek et al., 2012). Recent evidence suggests that peatlands play a pivotal role in the delivery of Fe to coastal waters, and the organic acids that originate in peat likely serve as the principal metal chelator for Fe transport in rivers (Krachler et al., 2005, 2010). The transport of Fe in these colloidal (<10 kD) metal-organic complexes is considered a major way for peat-derived riverine Fe to escape Fe oxyhydroxide precipitation and flocculation, and hence escape estuarine removal (Boyle et al., 1977; Krachler et al., 2005, 2010).

High latitude permafrost peatlands currently face dramatic changes in temperature (Westermann et al., 2015; Hecht et al., 2007), and the predicted 37% reduction of the permafrost extent by 2100 (IPCC 2013) is likely to result in significant changes in soil drainage. Although whether permafrost peatlands will become wetter or drier is still uncertain (e.g., Swindles et al., 2015). Changing freeze-thaw cycles and frequencies of seasonal anoxic soils is likely to impact redox-controlled process such as Fe mobilisation, and hence, Fe export from soils. In order to better predict the potential impact of warming peatlands at high latitudes on the Fe export from soils in these regions, a detailed understanding of processes controlling Fe behaviour in high latitude soils is required.

In soils, Fe is initially locked up in primary minerals. Through chemical weathering, Fe is mobilised by proton-promoted, ligand-controlled or reductive dissolution (e.g., Cornell and Schwertmann, 2003; Bonneville et al., 2004; Wiederhold et al., 2006; Melton et al., 2014). This mobilised Fe can reside in soils as secondary phyllosilicates, Fe oxyhydroxides and/or chelated as metal-organic complexes (e.g., Cornell and Schwertmann, 2003; Thompson et al., 2011), or be exported from soils. The evolution of Fe in secondary phases is a function of (i) soil drainage that affects redox processes, (ii) soil weathering degree that affects the mineral reserve and the solubility of minerals, and (iii) soil organic matter content that affects the amount and type of organic ligands (e.g., Schwertmann, 2008; Fritsch et al., 2009).

The stable iron isotope compositions of soils can be shifted from the composition of the parent material by the removal or addition of significant pools of fractionated Fe, providing a valuable approach to trace the processes controlling Fe mobilisation and export from soils (e.g., Fantle and De Paolo, 2004; Emmanuel et al., 2005; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Thompson et al., 2007; Fekiacova et al., 2013; Mansfeldt et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014; Schulz et al., 2016; Dauphas et al., 2017). More precisely, Fe isotopes in soils are sensitive to redox processes, to weathering processes and the formation of Fe-oxides, and to the formation of Fe-organic complexes. Light Fe isotopes are often enriched in soils containing secondary Fe phases (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2007b; Kiczka et al., 2011; Guelke et al., 2010; Poitrasson et al., 2008; Yesavage et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014; Fekiacova et al., 2017). This enrichment can be explained by the quantitative precipitation of light Fe-oxyhydroxides from light Fe isotopes preferentially released by proton-promoted mineral weathering (Chapman et al., 2009; Kiczka et al., 2010a), reductive mineral dissolution (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2006, 2007a, 2007b), and ligand-controlled mineral dissolution (Brantley et al., 2001, 2004; Wiederhold et al., 2006, 2007b; Buss et al., 2010). In solution, there is an isotope fractionation between Fe(III) and Fe(II), with light isotopes accumulating in the Fe(II) (Johnson et al., 2002; Thompson et al., 2007;

Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al, 2003; Wu et al., 2011). The greater mobility of Fe(II) is a cause of soil Fe isotope fractionation in anoxic soils, leaving a residual soil enriched in heavy Fe (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Fekiacova et al., 2013; Akerman et al., 2014; Schuth et al., 2015). In the presence of organic ligands, heavy Fe isotopes are favoured in Fe-organic complexes relative to uncomplexed Fe in solution (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010), potentially modifying the Fe isotope fractionation induced by mineral dissolution.

Icelandic soils hosts high latitude soils, that range from poorly weathered, well drained, oxic soils to more intensely weathered, poorly drained, peat-rich soils (i.e., anoxic, or seasonally anoxic) all derived from a largely homogeneous basaltic bedrock. These soils therefore provide an ideal natural laboratory to use Fe isotopes to investigate the controls on Fe export from soils under contrasting soil drainage, soil weathering degree and soil organic matter content. The working hypothesis of this study is that in poorly weathered well drained soils, a limited Fe isotope fractionation in solution relative to the parent basalt is expected; by contrast, in the more weathered soils, given the poor drainage and the high amount of soil organic carbon, Fe isotope fractionation in solution associated with reductive dissolution, ligand-controlled dissolution, and leaching of Fe(II) is expected, and Fe-organic complexation would modify the Fe isotope fractionation driven by mineral dissolution.

Additional constraint on the advance of weathering in soils can also be obtained from silicon isotopes which are fractionated by weathering processes due to the preferential incorporation of light isotopes in secondary aluminosilicates (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt et al., 2010, 2012; Oelze et al., 2014). The formation of these secondary phases depends on Al availability, which in organic-rich soils is limited due to the formation of Al-organic complexes (Parfitt, 2009; Parfitt and Kimble, 1989; Mizota and van Reeuwijk, 1989). If the formation of secondary aluminosilicates is limited, the Si concentration in solution may reach supersaturation with respect to amorphous silica, for example upon freezing (Ping, 1988; Shoji and Masui, 1971). The precipitation of amorphous silica fractionates Si isotopes (e.g., Li et al., 1995; Geilert et al., 2014, 2015; Roerdink et al., 2015; Oelze et al., 2015), and would add to the Si isotope fractionation induced by clay formation. Consequently, a second working hypothesis is that Si isotope fractionation in soils, if partly caused by amorphous silica precipitation, indirectly provides a way to support the formation of metal-organic complexes in soils.

This study tests these two hypotheses on Icelandic soils comparing organic-poor and organic-rich soils derived from the same parental basalt. We report on Fe and Si isotope compositions of bulk soils, secondary phases, and soil solutions with a detailed soil characterisation and information on the distribution of Fe and Si.

## **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **2.1. Environmental setting**

The types of soils developed in Iceland are primarily determined by the drainage conditions and aeolian volcanic ash inputs (Arnalds, 2004), which provide a source of fresh reactive material to the developing soils. Soils in West Iceland receive lower amounts of aeolian ash deposition ( $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Sigfusson et al., 2008) relative to areas closer to the rift zones in South West Iceland ( $\sim 2 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Arnalds, 2004). In areas with vegetation cover, soils are classified as Andosols ( $\sim 48 \%$ ; Haplic, Histic and Gleyic Andosols), desert areas are dominated by poorly developed Vitric Andosols ( $\sim 40 \%$ ) and

wetland areas by organic-rich Histosols (~1 %), with the rest of Iceland (~11%) being mainly covered by glaciers (Arnalds, 2004, 2008). The andic properties of the soils and the cold climate (mean summer temperature of 12 °C) are amongst the key factors that result in low rates of organic matter decomposition in Iceland (Guicharnaud, 2009). Oxidation is also impaired in poorly drained areas such that the accumulation of plant debris results in the progressive buildup of peat (Histic Andosol and Histosol).

The hydrology in Icelandic soils is affected by seasonal variability in runoff, which ranges from below 100 mm/season in the summer (June-July-August) to 200 - 400 mm/season in the winter (December-January-February) (Icelandic Meteorological Office; Crochet et al., 2007). The climate in the areas of the lowland soils (below 200 m altitude) is temperate, with a mean annual precipitation (MAP) of 1017 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> and a mean annual temperature (MAT) of 4.6 °C. Due to the maritime winter climate of Iceland, the soils are exposed to more freeze-thaw cycles than many other subarctic regions (Orradottir et al., 2008; Arnalds, 2008). This leads to seasonal wet-dry cycles that influence water mobility in soils. Recently (post 1945), Icelandic inland wetland areas have been subject to a wide-scale draining subsidy driven by agriculture, mainly for hay-making (Arnalds et al., 2016). As a result of the installed ditch network or drainage trenches, inland wetlands are now strongly affected by drainage, especially in lowland areas, where up to 70% of the wetland areas are affected. Most of the poorly drained soils (Histic Andosol and Histosol) located in the lowland areas are, therefore, affected by drainage ditches. However, Histosols are still characterised by wetter conditions (more anoxic) than Histic Andosols (Arnalds, 2008).

## 2.2. Soil sampling and characterisation

Five typical Icelandic soil types (Histic Andosol, HA; Histosol, H; Haplic Andosol, BA; Gleyic Andosol, GA; Vitric Andosol, V) under grassland were sampled in September 2009 (location in Figure 1), including the parent basalt from the BA site, and the grass-type vegetation (hummocky grassland, bulk shoot part) was sampled in June 2010 from the HA site. The soil profiles were described following the World Reference Base for Soil Resources (IUSS, 2014; Table EA-1) and sampled by horizon. The profiles have been characterised previously for their Mg, Mo and Zn isotopic compositions (Opfergelt et al., 2014; Siebert et al., 2015; Opfergelt et al., 2017). The five soil profiles can be divided into two groups as a function of drainage: the freely drained soils V-BA-GA and the poorly drained soils HA-H. Profiles V, BA, and GA are characterised by a neutral pH and a low organic carbon content (pH 6.7 ± 0.7; 5.4 ± 2.9 % C; Table 1), in contrast to profiles HA and H which are acidic and organic rich soils (pH 4.8 ± 0.6; 21 ± 9 % C; Table 1; Opfergelt et al., 2014). The parent material is basaltic (main primary minerals: augite, Ca-rich plagioclase, magnetite, and glass). In volcanic soils, short-range ordered or poorly crystalline phases (i.e., aluminosilicates and Fe-oxides) are formed first (e.g., Rai and Kittrick, 1989; Thompson et al., 2011; Delmelle et al., 2015). With increasing time for soil development, the poorly crystalline phases transform to more crystalline minerals. Among the five soil profiles, the weathering degree increases in the following order: Basalt<V<BA<GA<H<HA (Opfergelt et al., 2014).

Iron was selectively extracted using dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate (DCB) (Fe<sub>d</sub>; Mehra and Jackson, 1960), ammonium oxalate (Fe<sub>o</sub>; Blakemore et al., 1981), and Na-pyrophosphate (Fe<sub>p</sub>; Bascomb, 1968) and measured by ICP-AES. The analytical conditions for these extractions are provided in Table EA-2. The DCB-extractable Fe is used to provide an estimate of the content of free iron oxides in soils, i.e.,

poorly crystalline and crystalline Fe-oxides. The oxalate-extractable Fe is used as an indicator of poorly crystalline Fe-oxides. The pyrophosphate-extractable Fe is used as an indicator of Fe-organic complexes. These extractions are, however, to be considered with caution. Magnetite might be partly dissolved by oxalate and contribute to  $Fe_o$  (e.g., Walker, 1983). The dithionite extraction is usually considered to not dissolve magnetite, but some studies report magnetite dissolution with DCB (e.g., Kostka and Luther, 1994; Henkel et al., 2016). The pyrophosphate is a dispersing agent and  $Fe_p$  may include the contribution of Fe-oxide nanoparticulates in addition to the organically-bound Fe (Jeanroy and Guillet, 1981), even if this contribution decreased by the centrifugation and filtration of the extract (Table EA-1). These selective extractions are, therefore, not fully quantitative, but can, nevertheless, be used as indicators of the evolution of the mineral phases as a function of the soil development. The  $Fe_o/Fe_d$  ratio is used as a reflection of the relative proportion of short-range ordered Fe oxyhydroxides (ferrihydrite) in the global pool of Fe-oxides. Within the total iron content ( $Fe_t$ ) in soils, the proportion of Fe contained in free Fe-oxides ( $Fe_d$ ) is used as a weathering index (the  $Fe_d/Fe_t$  ratio). The organic carbon released after dispersion by the pyrophosphate ( $C_p$ ) was quantified by combustion (Shimadzu TOC analyzer, detection limit  $< 2 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ) and is considered to provide an indication of the amount of C that was included in metal-organic complexes (e.g. Cornu and Clozel, 2000; Cornu et al., 2008).

The oxalate-extractable Si ( $Si_o$ ) was determined by ICP-AES to estimate the quantity of Si associated with poorly crystalline aluminosilicates (allophane) as an indicator of the evolution of the mineral phases in soils with weathering. The  $Si_o$  also includes the contribution from Si associated with poorly crystalline Fe oxyhydroxides (ferrihydrite). The  $Si_o$  estimated this way is, however, to be considered with caution because volcanic glass might also be partly dissolved using this protocol, particularly at pH values below 6 (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001; Arnalds and Gislason, 2002; Wolff-Boenisch et al., 2004). The DCB-extractable Si ( $Si_d$ ) measured by ICP-AES can be used as an indicator of Si-bound to Fe oxyhydroxides, but is also to be considered with caution given that partial dissolution of poorly-crystalline silicate phases, such as allophane, by DCB may occur (e.g., Parfitt and Childs, 1988; Borggaard, 1988; Ryan and Gschwend, 1991). Bulk soils ( $< 2 \text{ mm}$ ) were analysed by X-ray diffraction (XRD, Bruker D8, Cu  $K\alpha$ ), after oxalate extraction to remove poorly crystalline allophane and ferrihydrite and  $H_2O_2$  treatment to remove organic matter, to evaluate the presence of goethite and amorphous silica.

### 2.3. Soil solution and river water: sampling and characterisation

Soil solutions, i.e., pore waters from the soil profiles (except V), were sampled in June 2010, using macro rhizon soil water samplers (length 9 cm, diameter 4.5 mm, porosity  $0.2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ; Eijkelkamp®). The soil horizons were fully saturated at the time of sampling in H-HA, but not in BA-GA. The rhizon samplers were installed in soils for two weeks and collected every 24 hours to provide a bulk soil solution (total volume of between 100 and 1500 ml), which was then acidified in 0.5%  $HNO_3$  to prevent oxidative precipitation. The Fe concentrations were measured by ICP-MS, and Si concentrations by spectrophotometry (Opfergelt et al., 2014).

Three river water samples were collected in West Iceland in September 2009 (Figure 1). One river sample (HA river) was collected next to the HA soil profile and the two other rivers (A3 and A4) corresponding to localities A3 and A4 previously sampled to study the influence of weathering processes on U and Li isotopes (Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2006), Mg isotopes (Pogge von



Strandmann et al., 2008), and Mo isotopes (Pearce et al., 2010) were sampled again. Water was collected in pre-cleaned polypropylene bottles from the centre of the flow, and filtered within 24h through 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  cellulose acetate filters. The temperature, pH, and electrical conductivity were measured in the field. For river localities A3 and A4, the 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  filtered water was then ultrafiltered, using a Sartorius cross-flow filter unit containing Sartocon polyethersulphone (PESU) slice cassettes, in order to separate the colloidal fraction ( $> 10 \text{ kD}$ ) from the “truly” dissolved ( $< 10 \text{ kD}$ ) fraction. The Fe concentration in the dissolved ( $< 0.2\mu\text{m}$ ) and colloidal fraction ( $10 \text{ kD} - 0.2 \mu\text{m}$ ) was determined by ICP-MS in 2 %  $\text{HNO}_3$  (Open University, UK). The accuracy on the Fe concentration ( $\pm 7 \%$ ;  $< 0.01 \mu\text{M}$  detection limit) was assessed using the water reference material SLRS-4 (measured Fe concentration value of  $110 \pm 3 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  relative to certified value of  $103 \pm 5 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ; Yeghicheyan et al., 2001).

#### 2.4. Iron and silicon stable isotope measurements

The Fe isotope compositions ( $\delta^{57/54}\text{Fe}$ , relative to the IRMM014 Fe standard) of the basalt (USGS international rock standard BIR-1 which is an Iceland basalt), bulk soil samples (except for soil profile V), selective extractions by dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate ( $\text{Fe}_d$ , excluding Fe bound in silicates, except V; Guelke et al., 2010), soil solutions (except V), and the vegetation sample were analysed by MC-ICP-MS (Thermo Neptune) at Durham University using standard Fe purification and mass spectrometry procedures (Williams et al., 2012). Dissolution, Fe purification and isotope analyses were undertaken using established procedures (Williams et al., 2014). Briefly, bulk soil samples and the vegetation sample were first digested in aqua regia (3:1  $\text{HCl}:\text{HNO}_3$ ) and following a reflux and evaporation cycle, were subsequently treated with concentrated  $\text{HF}:\text{HNO}_3$  (10:1) in order to dissolve any detrital material. Soil solutions and extractions were evaporated down. All samples were then oxidised with several reflux (at  $150^\circ\text{C}$ ) and evaporation (at  $210^\circ\text{C}$ ) cycles of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (repeatedly e.a. to decompose the sulphide matrix from the dithionite reagent; e.g., Henkel et al., 2016), an important step given that Fe isotope analysis of DCB extracts are challenging, after which they were converted to 6M  $\text{HCl}$  form for anion column chemistry (AG1-X4, 200-400 mesh, chloride form). Iron yields were quantitative and total procedural blanks were  $< 0.5 \text{ ng}$ , which is negligible compared to the total amount of Fe processed per soil sample or extraction ( $\sim 20 \mu\text{g}$ ). The analysed sample and standard solutions comprised 2 ppm Fe in 0.1 M  $\text{HNO}_3$ . Sample and standard (IRMM-014) intensities ( $^{56}\text{Fe}$  and  $^{54}\text{Fe}$ ) were matched to within 10 %. The standard  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  beam intensity was in the range  $2.5$  to  $3.5 \times 10^{10}$ . A. Measurements included collection of  $^{57}\text{Fe}$ ,  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  and  $^{54}\text{Fe}$  and  $^{53}\text{Cr}$  to allow for correction of any interference of  $^{54}\text{Cr}$  on  $^{54}\text{Fe}$ . We typically measured with a pseudo-high (peak-edge) resolution ( $M/\Delta M$ ) of  $\sim 8500$ - $9000$ . Errors are reported as the 2 standard deviations of replicate analyses. Mass dependence, long-term reproducibility and accuracy were evaluated by analysis of an in-house  $\text{FeCl}$  salt standard ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -1.05 \pm 0.07 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=67$ ) previously analysed in other studies (Williams et al., 2014). The international rock standards BIR-1 (Icelandic basalt) and Nod-P1 (Pacific ferromanganese nodule) were analysed over the course of this study. The mean Fe isotope compositions of these standards are:  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$  (2SD,  $n = 4$ ) for BIR-1, and  $-0.84 \pm 0.02 \text{ ‰}$  for Nod-P1 (2SD,  $n = 7$ ). These data are in excellent agreement with those reported previously (Millet et al., 2012; Weyer et al., 2005; Williams et al., 2014).

The Si isotope compositions ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ , relative to the NBS-28 Si standard) of the parent basalt (from the BA site; Opfergelt et al., 2014), bulk soil samples (all soils), clay fractions  $< 2 \mu\text{m}$  (except V, recovered after sonication, dispersion with  $\text{Na}^+$ -saturated resin of the  $< 2\text{mm}$  fraction, separation from the larger grain size by gravitational settling following the Stokes law, and flocculation of the clay

particles; Rouiller et al., 1972), and soil solutions were analysed by MC-ICP-MS at the University of Oxford, UK, using standard Si purification and mass spectrometry procedures (Opfergelt et al., 2012). Briefly, solid samples were ashed at 450 °C and dissolved by NaOH fusion at 720 °C in a silver crucible. All samples were purified for Si isotope measurements using cation exchange resin (BioRad AG50W-X12) (Georg et al., 2006). Silicon isotope compositions were determined on a Nu Plasma HR-MC-ICP-MS in dry plasma mode in pseudo-high (“medium”) resolution. Each sample was analysed 9 times, where each single  $\delta$ -value (n) represents one sample run and two bracketed standard runs. The mass dependence, accuracy and long-term reproducibility on  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  were assessed over a period of 12 months using the reference materials Diatomite ( $+1.25 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=132), Quartz Merck ( $-0.05 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=45) and the USGS rock standard BHVO-2 ( $-0.26 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=124). These values are in excellent agreement with those reported previously (Reynolds et al., 2007; Abraham et al., 2008; Savage et al., 2010; Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011).

### 3. RESULTS

All data are presented in Tables 1-3, in Figures 1-6 and in Figures EA-1 to EA-5 (for some parameters, characterisation performed on a subset of samples).

#### 3.1. Distribution of secondary phases in soils with weathering

Poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as allophane are present in a higher amount in V-BA-GA than in HA-H soils, and this is supported by a higher  $\text{Si}_\text{o}$  content in V-BA-GA ( $20.5 \pm 6.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) relative to HA ( $10.6 \pm 4.3 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) and H ( $5.9 \pm 3.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1). The crystalline clay minerals that have been identified are kaolinite and smectite (Opfergelt et al., 2014). The pool of free iron oxides ( $\text{Fe}_\text{d}/\text{Fe}_\text{t}$ ) increases with an increasing degree of weathering (Figure 2), and the proportion of short-range ordered Fe-oxides in the global pool of Fe-oxides ( $\text{Fe}_\text{o}/\text{Fe}_\text{d}$  ratio) decreases with an increasing degree of weathering (Figure EA-1a), suggesting that with increasing time for soil development poorly crystalline Fe-oxyhydroxides, such as ferrihydrite, transform to more crystalline phases such as goethite (shown by XRD; Figure EA-2). The proportion of  $\text{Si}_\text{d}$  is lower in V-BA-GA ( $\text{Si}_\text{d}/\text{Si}_\text{t} = 2.1 \pm 0.5 \text{ ‰}$ ) than in HA and H ( $\text{HA} = 4.8 \pm 2.2 \text{ ‰}$ ;  $\text{H} = 3.3 \pm 1.3 \text{ ‰}$ ; Table 1).

In addition to secondary aluminosilicates and Fe-oxides, Fe released from the weathering of primary minerals may form metal-organic complexes. The amount of  $\text{Fe}_\text{p}$  is higher in HA-H soils ( $30.4 \pm 17.6 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) than the V-BA-GA soils ( $4.1 \pm 3.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1), while the amounts of  $\text{C}_\text{p}$  are lower in V, BA and GA soils ( $14.5 \pm 8.0 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) than in HA and H soils ( $49.6 \pm 16.9 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ; Table 1). More specifically, the proportion of  $\text{Fe}_\text{p}$  in the total soil Fe ( $\text{Fe}_\text{p}/\text{Fe}_\text{t}$ ) is higher in H than in HA, and  $\text{Fe}_\text{p}$  correlates with the amount of  $\text{C}_\text{p}$  in all soils (Figure EA-1b).

#### 3.2. Iron isotope variations in soils, soil solutions and rivers

The poorly weathered soils (BA-GA) display relatively invariant Fe isotope compositions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.09 \pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=10; Table 1; Figure EA-3a) that are indistinguishable within error from the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the Iceland basalt BIR-1 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), which is considered representative of the parent material. At higher degrees of weathering and hence a higher amount of free Fe-oxides (Figure 3a), the bulk soil Fe isotope compositions tend to deviate from the parent basalt composition, with a trend towards lighter values in HA ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -0.14 \pm 0.33 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=7) and heavier values in H ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = 0.34 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD, n=6). The pool of free Fe-oxides in soils ( $\text{Fe}_\text{d}$ ) is characterised by  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_\text{DCB}$



values that are generally lighter than the bulk soil (Figure 3b) and positively correlated with the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the bulk soil ( $R^2 = 0.56$ ). Importantly, the bulk soil and the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool of the least weathered soil BA are characterised by  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values (BA:  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}} = 0.13 \pm 0.03 \text{ ‰}$ ,  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}} = 0.07 \pm 0.09 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) that are within error of that of the Iceland basalt BIR-1 ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), as expected. These observations provide further evidence that matrix effects do not compromise the Fe isotope analysis of DCB extractions (Guelke et al., 2010).

The soil solutions are characterised by low Fe concentrations in BA-GA ( $0.02 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ) and HA ( $0.03 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ) relative to H (from  $0.06$  to  $25.07 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe, with the highest concentrations in H O4 ( $15.25 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe) and H O6 ( $19.98 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe; Table 2). The Fe isotope compositions of the soil solutions are lighter than the bulk soils (Figure 3c) but not systematically lighter than the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool (Figure EA-3a). The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the soil solutions are positively correlated with the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the bulk soil ( $R^2 = 0.55$ ; in soil horizons for which  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  is available for bulk soils and soil solutions: BA, HA, H). There is no difference between the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in soil solutions relative to Icelandic basalt (BIR-1) in BA-GA ( $0.02 \pm 0.11 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=4$ ), a trend towards lighter values relative to the basalt in HA soil solutions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  range from  $-1.36$  to  $-0.08 \text{ ‰}$ ), while the heaviest  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  compositions in soil solutions are found in H soil solutions ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  range from  $-0.48$  to  $+0.38 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure EA-3a). The lightest  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soil solutions are found in those characterised by the lowest pH (Table 1; Figure EA-3b). The soil solutions with the highest Fe concentrations (H O4 and H O6) are characterised by Fe isotope compositions of  $-0.48 \text{ ‰}$  and  $0.14 \text{ ‰}$ , respectively (Figure 3c). The Icelandic grass collected is characterized by a  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of  $-0.09 \pm 0.03 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD (Table 1).

The river water samples collected in September 2009, A3 and A4, display similar temperature and pH values ( $8.2 \pm 1.4 \text{ °C}$  and  $\text{pH } 8.2 \pm 0.3$ ; Table 3) and slightly higher conductivity values ( $57 \pm 6 \text{ μS cm}^{-1}$ ; Table 3) relative to samples from the same rivers collected in September 2003 (average values for localities A3 and A4:  $10.7 \pm 2.4 \text{ °C}$ ,  $\text{pH } 8.0 \pm 0.1$ , conductivity  $38 \pm 4 \text{ μS cm}^{-1}$ ; Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2006). The Fe concentration in the filtered fraction of those rivers (below  $0.2 \text{ μm}$ ) ranges between  $6$  and  $11.7 \text{ μg L}^{-1}$  (Table 3), with between  $26$  and  $56 \text{ ‰}$  of Fe being colloidal ( $10 \text{ kD} - 0.2 \text{ μm}$ ; Table 3). In river sample A4, the Fe isotope composition of the filtered fraction ( $< 0.2 \text{ μm}$ ) is lighter ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -0.46 \pm 0.07 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) than the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the colloidal fraction ( $10 \text{ kD} - 0.2 \text{ μm}$ ) ( $-0.14 \pm 0.07 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Table 3).

### 3.3. Silicon isotope variations in soils and soil solutions

Bulk soil Si isotope compositions are generally lighter than that of the parent basalt ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -0.29 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) in V ( $-0.42 \pm 0.05 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=3$ ) and in BA-GA ( $-0.61 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=11$ ), and are the lightest and most variable in HA ( $-0.91 \pm 0.28 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=7$ ) and H ( $-0.74 \pm 0.20 \text{ ‰}$ ,  $n=6$ , 2SD; Table 1; Figure EA-4a). The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values of the bulk soil samples become progressively lighter with greater degree of weathering, as defined using the amount of free Fe-oxide ( $R^2 = 0.47$ ; Figure 4a). The data indicate that above  $45 \text{ ‰}$  clay content ( $< 2 \text{ μm}$ ; granulometric clay fraction with clay minerals and Fe-oxides as the main mineral constituents), the Si isotope composition of the bulk soils becomes systematically lighter (Table 1). The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the clay fractions are lighter than the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the bulk soil, with a trend towards lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  with increasing weathering from BA-GA to HA (Figure 4b).

The Si concentrations in soil solutions in HA ( $20.03 \pm 9.75 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ) are higher than in BA-GA ( $6.80 \pm 3.21 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ), whereas H soil solutions display Si concentrations ( $14.25 \pm 6.13 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ; Table 2) that fall between those from BA-GA and HA but are not significantly different from each

other. The Si concentrations in soil solutions increase at lower pH ( $R^2 = 0.79$ ; Table 1; Figure EA-4b). The Si isotope compositions of soil solutions are heavier ( $+0.29 \pm 0.37 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD,  $n=30$ ; Table 2) than the bulk soils (Figure 4c) and the Icelandic basalt (Figure EA-4a). There is no difference in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  between the BA-GA and HA-H soil solutions (Table 2). The heaviest  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values in soil solutions are found in the deep horizons of the H soil profile (H O4 + 0.88 ‰ and H O6 + 1.22 ‰; Figure 4c).

## 4. DISCUSSION

### 4.1. Iron isotope fractionation in soils

The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the Icelandic basalt used as representative of the parent material (BIR-1 =  $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) is within the range of terrestrial igneous rocks ( $-0.1$  to  $+0.15 \text{ ‰}$ ; Beard et al., 2003; Figure 5a). The range of  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  observed in bulk Icelandic soils ( $-0.60$  to  $+0.67 \text{ ‰}$ ) is within that of existing iron isotope data for soils (recalculated where necessary from  $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$  to  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  using the mass-dependent scaling factor of 1.5; e.g., from  $-0.9$  to  $+1.4 \text{ ‰}$ ; Fantle and De Paolo, 2004; Emmanuel et al., 2005; Thompson et al., 2007; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Mansfeldt et al., 2012; Fekiacova et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2014; Akerman et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2014; Schulz et al., 2016; Figure 5a), including soils that formed in both oxic and anoxic weathering conditions. The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values of the free Fe oxide pool ( $-1.07$  to  $+0.25 \text{ ‰}$ ) are within the range of published values for pedogenic Fe-oxides ( $-1.07$  to  $+0.90 \text{ ‰}$ ; Wiederhold et al., 2007b; Kiczka et al., 2011; Guelke et al., 2010; Poitrasson et al., 2008; Yesavage et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014; Schuth and Mansfeldt 2015; Figure 5a).

Minimal  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  variations in the BA-GA bulk soils ( $0.09 \pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) relative to the parent basalt ( $0.07 \pm 0.04 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) likely reflect the low degree of weathering of these soils, and the lower amount of Fe-oxyhydroxides present compared to the HA-H soils (Figure 3a). This is supported by the “basalt-like”  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  ratio in the volcanic ash horizon HA soil profile (HA redox, 67-83 cm depth =  $-0.05 \pm 0.05 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Figure 3a; Table EA-1). In this volcanic ash layer, the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value with respect to the rest of the profile reflects the lower weathering degree of the material, i.e., a lower proportion of Fe-oxyhydroxides (Figure 2). Aeolian deposition of volcanic ash at the top of the soils also contributes to soil formation in Iceland (Arnalds, 2008). However, the influence of volcanic ash on soil Fe isotope compositions is likely to be limited given that the aeolian contribution in the area of BA-GA-HA-H soils in West Iceland are low ( $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Sigfusson et al., 2008) when compared to areas closer to the rift zones in South West Iceland ( $\sim 2 \text{ mm yr}^{-1}$ ; Arnalds, 2004).

The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in HA bulk soils are heavier than the basalt at the surface and lighter than the basalt below 25 cm depth (Figure EA-3a). The poorly drained conditions of this profile are likely to favour the release of isotopically light Fe(II) under anoxic conditions, followed by the quantitative precipitation of Fe-oxides during fluctuating oxic conditions (e.g., Fekiacova et al., 2013; Yesavage et al., 2016) resulting in the enrichment of light Fe isotopes in pedogenic oxides in these soils (Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Guelke et al., 2010; Kiczka et al., 2011). This hypothesis is supported by the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$  composition of the  $\text{Fe}_d$  pool relative to the bulk soils (Figure 3b) indicating a preferential retention of light Fe isotopes in Fe-oxides. The fluctuations of oxic-anoxic conditions are generated by frequent seasonal freeze-thaw cycles (Orradottir et al., 2008), and these fluctuations occur more regularly in HA than H (Arnalds, 2008), and are amplified by drainage ditches in wetlands (Arnalds et al., 2016). In addition, the presence of Fe-organic complexes may contribute to the Fe isotope variability in the HA profile ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -0.14 \pm 0.33 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD), and lead to the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  relative to the basalt observed above 25 cm. Iron-organic ligand complexation has been

experimentally shown to favour heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010), as predicted by the isotope fractionation theory for a stronger bonding environment (Schauble, 2004). The correlation between  $Fe_p/Fe_t$  and  $C_p$  (Figure EA-1b) supports the presence of Fe-organic complexes in both HA and H soils. The formation of metal-organic complexes is favoured by the higher amounts of organic carbon available in the HA-H soils relative to the BA-GA soils (Table 1), and by the lower pH in the HA-H soils than in BA-GA soils (Table 1) enhancing the rate of glass dissolution (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001) and thereby creating a larger dissolved Fe pool.

The  $\delta^{57}Fe$  values in the H bulk soils are heavier than the basalt suggesting the loss of light Fe isotopes from this soil. The poorly drained conditions (mainly anoxic) of this profile are likely to favour the release of isotopically light Fe(II) by reductive dissolution. The reduction of Fe is known to lead to a fractionation of Fe isotopes, with Fe(II) being isotopically lighter than Fe(III) (Thompson et al., 2007; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al., 2003; Wu et al., 2011), and the greater mobility of Fe(II) in aqueous solutions during weathering and soil development progressively depletes the soil in light Fe isotopes, and leaves the residual material enriched in heavy Fe (e.g., Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Fekiacova et al., 2013; Akerman et al., 2014; Schuth et al., 2015). The existence of drainage ditches in wetlands (Arnalds et al., 2016) can potentially expose the H soil profile to oxic conditions for short periods of time, which could explain the presence of secondary Fe-oxides in this soil and the range of Fe isotope variability of the bulk soils ( $\delta^{57}Fe = 0.34 \pm 0.26$  ‰, 2SD). The variable  $\delta^{57}Fe$  isotope composition of the  $Fe_d$  pool is similar to or heavier than the bulk soil in the H profile (except one lighter value; Figure 3b) and this suggests that the quantitative precipitation of Fe-oxides has occurred following a loss of light Fe isotopes. In addition, the formation and quantitative accumulation of Fe-organic complexes may contribute to the Fe isotope variability in the H profile. This process is likely to occur to a greater extent in H than in HA, given the anoxic conditions releasing Fe by reductive dissolution (highest Fe concentration in soil solution in H; Table 1), resulting in the higher proportion of  $Fe_p$  in the H soil than in the HA soil (higher  $Fe_p/Fe_t$ ; Figure EA-1b).

Iron recycling by vegetation, including plant Fe uptake and decomposition of organic matter, is likely to contribute to the Fe isotope variability in soils, especially in organic-rich soils such as HA-H. The  $\delta^{57}Fe$  value in plant available from the HA site (Icelandic grass:  $\delta^{57}Fe = -0.09 \pm 0.03$  ‰, 2SD; Table 1) is isotopically similar or heavier than the HA soil solution (Table 2). However, the Fe isotope fractionation in plants is still debated (e.g., Guelke-Stelling and von Blanckenburg, 2012; Caldelas and Weiss 2017) as it may depend on different parameters such as the plant Fe acquisition strategy (Marschner and Römheld, 1994; Guelke and von Blanckenburg, 2007) or the nutrient status of the soils (Kiczka et al., 2010b). It is therefore difficult to predict if heavier or lighter Fe isotopes are preferentially taken up by vegetation at the studied field sites based on the available data. The Fe concentrations of vegetation from the BA-GA-HA-H soils ranges from 0.2 to 0.4 g kg<sup>-1</sup> (Opfergelt et al., 2014), in good agreement with reported values for Fe concentrations in Icelandic grass 0.1 to 1.4 g kg<sup>-1</sup> (e.g., Johannesson et al., 2007). Taking a biomass production of ~2 t ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> (Opfergelt et al., 2014), the Fe uptake by vegetation ranges from 0.4 to 0.9 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>. Relative to the total soil Fe reservoir (between 134 and 338 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> in the top 40 cm of the soil profile, calculated for each profile from the total Fe concentration in soil horizons above 40 cm in Table 1, and the bulk density of soil horizons provided in Opfergelt et al., 2014), the annual Fe uptake in vegetation represents 0.3% to 0.6% of the soil Fe reservoir. Therefore, although Fe recycling by vegetation may contribute to the overall Fe isotope variability in bulk soils, this contribution is limited relative to the other processes previously discussed.

## 4.2. Controls on Fe in soil solutions

The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values of the soil solutions, generally lighter than their corresponding bulk soils (Figure 3c), indicate the preferential release of light Fe isotopes in the dissolved pool relative to the solid pool, or a preferential removal of heavy Fe isotopes from the soil solution. The limited Fe isotope fractionation in soil solutions relative to the bulk soil in BA-GA ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.11 \pm 0.12 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 6) reflects the limited Fe isotope fractionation in poorly weathered soils (Figure EA-3a): the trend to release light Fe isotopes likely reflects primary mineral weathering by proton-promoted dissolution (Chapman et al., 2009; Kiczka et al., 2010a).

The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in the HA soil solutions are lighter relative to the bulk soil except for HA Bw1 where the solution is heavier ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  in HA =  $-0.76$  to  $+0.25 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 6). The dissolution of glass is favoured given the low pH of the HA soil (as supported by the high Si concentration in solution; Figure EA-4b). Given that the HA soil is organic-rich, ligand-controlled mineral dissolution is likely to contribute to the release of Fe, favouring light Fe isotopes. In this soil, characterised by fluctuating oxic-anoxic conditions, reductive dissolution is likely to occur and release light Fe isotopes during periods of anoxia. Iron reduction may mobilize colloidal Fe-organic complexes and Fe-oxides from the soil (Buettner et al., 2014; Thompson et al., 2011). Mobilisation of colloidal Fe-oxides to soil solutions can provide some explanation of the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soil solutions relative to bulk soils, given that the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$  is similar to or lighter than the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of bulk soils (Figure 3b). Mobilisation of colloidal Fe-organic complexes, e.g., from the surface horizon HA A1 and horizon A2, may contribute to the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in the soil solution of the horizon HA Bw1, given that organic-Fe complexation favours heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010).

The  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values in H soil solutions are lighter than the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.45 \pm 0.24 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 6), but not as light as the HA soil solutions relative to the bulk soil ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  up to  $-0.76 \text{ ‰}$  in HA). The poorly drained conditions (mainly anoxic) in H soil favour reductive dissolution and the release of isotopically light Fe(II) (Thompson et al., 2007; Wiederhold et al., 2007a; Welch et al., 2003; Wu et al., 2011), and this is supported by the highest Fe concentrations in solution in H, especially at depth (below 52 cm depth, in H O4 and H O6,  $15.25$  and  $19.98 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe, respectively), relative to the other soil profiles (BA-GA:  $0.02 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=10$ ; HA:  $0.03 \pm 0.01 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $n=5$ ; Table 2). In addition, as for the soil profile HA, ligand-controlled mineral dissolution may also contribute to the release of light Fe isotopes in the H soil solutions, and Fe reduction may mobilize colloidal Fe as Fe-organic complexes or Fe-oxides (Buettner et al., 2014; Thompson et al., 2011) and contribute to the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  variability in solutions. The soil solutions of H O4 and H O6 are dominated by dissolved Fe(II) released under anoxic conditions, as supported by the high Fe concentrations in these soil solutions. Interestingly, the H O6 soil solution, which is characterised by a higher Fe concentration ( $19.9 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe), is isotopically heavier ( $0.14 \text{ ‰}$ ) than the soil solution of H O4 ( $-0.48 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 3c) which has a lower Fe concentration ( $15.2 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Fe; Table 2). These observations suggest that the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in H soil solutions is not only driven by light Fe(II) (Johnson et al., 2008), but modified towards heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values by the preferential retention of heavy Fe isotopes in solution, relative to the more mobile and isotopically lighter Fe(II). The formation of Fe-organic complexes in solution is expected to favour the incorporation of heavy Fe isotopes (Dideriksen et al., 2008; Morgan et al., 2010). The formation of Fe-organic complexes in the H soil profile is consistent with the higher  $\text{Fe}_p/\text{Fe}_t$  of the bulk H soil relative to the other soils (Figure EA-1b). These observations point to a contribution from colloidal Fe-organic complexes in soil solutions from the H soil profile, i.e., characterised by more anoxic

conditions (Figure 6). This is consistent with observations in a tropical setting in Brazil, where Fe is leached from soils as Fe-organic complexes in lowlands characterised by poorly drained (waterlogged) organic-rich environments involving Fe reductive dissolution in anoxia (Chauvel et al., 1987; Lucas et al., 1987; Fritsch et al., 2011).

### 4.3. Silicon isotope fractionation in soils

The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  isotope composition of the parent basalt ( $-0.29 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) is consistent with previously published values for basalts (BHVO-2 =  $-0.31 \pm 0.06 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; e.g., Abraham et al., 2008), and with the overall rather uniform  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  composition of terrestrial basalts (Savage et al., 2010; Figure 5b). The Si isotope composition of bulk soils (ranging from  $-1.32$  to  $-0.38 \text{ ‰}$ ) and clay fractions (ranging from  $-2.04$  to  $-0.63 \text{ ‰}$ ) are within the range of previously reported Si isotope values for such materials (review in Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012; Frings et al., 2016; Poitrasson, 2017; Figure 5b). The evolution of the Si isotope compositions of soils and clay fractions towards lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values with increasing degree of weathering (Figure 4a and 4b) is consistent with a preferential incorporation of light Si isotopes in secondary weathering phases, resulting in light  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in soils and clay fractions relative to the parental basalt (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012). The relationship between the weathering degree and the bulk soil  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  is also supported by the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the HA horizon corresponding to a volcanic ash layer (HA redox, 67-83 cm depth =  $-0.42 \pm 0.14 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) close to the basalt  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  value, and to the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the H O4 horizon located underneath a volcanic tephra layer (H tephra 40-52 cm; Table EA-1) and potentially including a basaltic contribution (H O4 =  $-0.47 \pm 0.08 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) (Figure 4a).

The presence of Fe-oxides in the secondary clay fractions may contribute to the light Si isotope composition of those clay fractions, due to the Si adsorption onto Fe-oxides (Jones and Handreck, 1983; Hiemstra et al., 2007; Swedlund and Webster, 1999) favouring isotopically light Si (Delstanche et al., 2009; Opfergelt et al., 2009). However, the  $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$  ratio, that can be used as a relative indicator of the contribution of Si adsorbed onto Fe-oxides to the total Si content in soils, suggests that the proportion of  $\text{Si}_d$  in Icelandic soils is limited ( $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$ : BA-GA =  $2.2 \pm 0.5 \%$ ; HA =  $4.8 \pm 2.2 \%$ ; H =  $5.2 \pm 3.3 \%$ ; Table 1). Even if the  $\text{Si}_d/\text{Si}_t$  ratio is two times higher in HA than in BA-GA, the proportion of Si adsorbed is below 8 %, which is limited relative to Si mass in aluminosilicates. Consequently, the contribution of light Si isotopes adsorbed onto Fe-oxides to the observed isotope difference between  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  in HA ( $-1.67 \pm 0.35 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD) and in BA-GA ( $-0.98 \pm 0.24 \text{ ‰}$ , 2SD; Table 1) is probably limited.

In secondary aluminosilicates, there is an evolution from poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as allophane forming in poorly weathered soils V-BA-GA (as supported by higher  $\text{Si}_o$  content than in HA-H; Table 1), towards crystalline aluminosilicates such as kaolinite in more weathered soils HA-H. That evolution is generally accompanied by a decrease of the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  value of the clay minerals (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Opfergelt et al., 2012; Cornelis et al., 2014), in good agreement with the decrease in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$  from BA-GA to HA (Figure 3b).

In organic-rich soils, such as HA-H (Table 1), the affinity of Al for organic ligands at relatively low pH limits Al availability for the formation of allophane (Parfitt, 2009; Parfitt and Kimble, 1989; Mizota and van Reeuwijk, 1989). These conditions, combined with the enhanced dissolution of glass at lower pH (Oelkers and Gislason, 2001), favour the increase of the Si concentration in solution (Figure EA-4b). During periods of freezing, Si supersaturation with respect to amorphous silica may be reached, leading to amorphous silica precipitation (Ping, 1988; Shoji and Masui, 1971; Dietzel, 2005). The



occurrence of amorphous silica is confirmed by XRD for the HA-H soils and is not observed in the V-BA-GA soils (Figure EA-2). The light isotopes of Si are known to be preferentially incorporated into amorphous Si (e.g., Li et al., 1995; Geilert et al., 2014, 2015; Roerdink et al., 2015; Oelze et al., 2015), which may contribute to the lighter Si isotope compositions of the HA and H bulk soils relative to the V-BA-GA soils (Figure 4a). A contribution from phytoliths to the fraction of amorphous Si in soils cannot be ruled out (McKeague and Cline, 1963), but is unlikely to represent the only contribution to amorphous silica. To be detected by XRD, an amorphous phase needs to represent ~30% of the sample (e.g., Paque et al., 2016). Taking the Si content in plants (25 g kg<sup>-1</sup>; Opfergelt et al., 2014) and the amount of organic carbon in HA and H soils (between 18 and 42 %; Table 1), a minimum Si contribution from organic matter in soils would be ~1 % (considering a low organic matter decomposition), and that contribution alone would not be detected by XRD. The presence of phytoliths may contribute to the Si isotope variability in bulk soils but is unlikely to explain the lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in HA-H soils relative to the other soils because plants preferentially incorporate the light Si isotopes (e.g., Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012 and references therein) from soil solutions that are heavier than the bulk soil (Figure 4c). The presence of amorphous silica in HA-H and not in V-BA-GA supports the limited availability of Al to form alumino-silicates in HA-H relative to V-BA-GA, and provides indirect support for the formation of metal-organic complexes in HA-H, as suggested in section 4.2. The formation of metal-organic complexes involving Al in HA-H is confirmed by the higher proportion of pyrophosphate extractable Al ( $\text{Al}_p/\text{Al}_t$ , used to estimate metal complexes with organic ligands; Figure EA-1c) in HA-H than in BA-GA.

Heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  compositions in soil solutions (ranging from -0.19 to +1.22 ‰ in BA-GA-HA-H) relative to the basalt result from the preferential incorporation of light Si isotopes in secondary weathering phases (e.g., Ziegler et al., 2005; Georg et al., 2009; Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012; Figure 5b). The Si isotope difference between the soil and the soil solution is within the same range in BA-GA and HA-H ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) except in H soil profile below 50 cm where the soil solutions are heavier than any other soil solutions (for H O4 and H O6 solutions:  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 1.63 \pm 0.40 \text{ ‰}$ ; Figure 6; Figure 4c; Figure EA-4a). These data do not suggest a contribution from the dissolution of secondary minerals in HA-H organic rich-soils more acidic, as it would release light Si isotopes in solution (Cornelis et al., 2010; Steinhöfel et al., 2017). No specific process is reported to release of heavy Si isotopes in solution. Instead, successive mineral precipitation with the preferential incorporation of light Si isotopes may lead to a larger Si isotope fractionation between the soil and the soil solution. Successive precipitation of amorphous Si and clay minerals has been suggested in HA-H and not in BA-GA (Opfergelt et al., 2011). The heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in H solutions relative to other soil solutions support that the precipitation of amorphous silica occurs in addition to the formation of secondary clay minerals. This is consistent with a limited availability of Al in H when metal-organic complexes are formed, as highlighted based on Fe isotopes (section 4.2; Figure EA-5a and 5b).

#### 4.4. Implications for the Fe export to rivers

Based on the present study, it can be anticipated that if warming peatland at high latitudes (IPCC, 2013; Romanovsky et al., 2010) decreases soil drainage and leads to more anoxic soils, Fe export from soils as Fe-organic complexes will increase. Although beyond the scope of the present study, the potential implications for Fe in rivers can be considered based on the few Fe isotope compositions measured for Icelandic rivers from the catchment areas in which the soil profiles are located in (Table 3). The riverine Fe isotope compositions of the dissolved fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ;  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe} = -$



0.55 ± 0.30 ‰, 2SD, n=3) are within the range of  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values reported for the dissolved fraction of other rivers (e.g., -1 to 0 ‰; Bergquist and Boyle, 2006; Mulholland et al., 2015; Figure 5a). The dissolved Fe fraction of rivers (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) includes truly dissolved Fe (<10 kD) and a range of colloidal Fe (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The colloidal fraction of the A4 river locality (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) is heavier (-0.14 ± 0.07 ‰, 2SD) than the corresponding dissolved fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ; -0.46 ± 0.07 ‰, 2SD). Based on an isotope mass balance calculation where 26 % of Fe has been measured in the colloidal fraction (Table 3), the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the truly dissolved Fe is -0.57 ‰, suggesting that the colloidal riverine Fe fraction represents an isotopically heavier Fe carrier than the truly dissolved Fe. This observation is consistent with the heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  values reported for river colloids (Ingri et al., 2006; Ilna et al., 2013; Akerman et al., 2014; Escoube et al., 2015; Mulholland et al., 2015; Figure 5a) relative to the dissolved fraction of global rivers (e.g., Bergquist and Boyle, 2006).

The heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  value of the colloidal fraction (10 kD - 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) relative to the dissolved fraction (< 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) of a local Icelandic river may reflect a contribution from colloidal Fe originating in soils. Colloidal Fe exported from soils may be present as Fe oxyhydroxide nanoparticulates and/or Fe-organic complexes (Thompson et al., 2011). In the context of organic-rich soils, the contribution of Fe-organic complexes transported from soils (Chauvel et al., 1987; Lucas et al., 1987; Fritsch et al., 2009, 2011) to rivers is thought to explain the heavy  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  ratio of the dissolved fraction of the Rio Negro river relative to the dissolved fraction of the Amazon river, Brazil (Bergquist and Boyle, 2006; dos Santos Pinheiro et al., 2014). In Iceland, the available  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  data for H soil solutions suggests that the release of colloidal Fe from Histosols may contribute to the colloidal heavy  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of rivers draining peat soils. Further study is required to quantify the contribution from Fe oxyhydroxides nanoparticulates and/or Fe-organic complexes to the colloids exported from soils to rivers, and hence the impact for Fe transport in rivers.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

The Fe isotope composition in Icelandic soils provides important insights into the processes controlling Fe export from high latitude soils as function of weathering and drainage (Figure 6). During early weathering stages, well-drained soils do not generate any significant  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  isotope variability in the bulk soils (0.09 ± 0.08 ‰, 2SD) relative to the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  composition of the parent basalt (0.07 ± 0.04 ‰, 2SD). In contrast, in poorly drained soils that have experienced a higher degree of weathering, light Fe isotopes are released in solution by reductive or ligand-controlled mineral dissolution. The Fe released is either quantitatively precipitated in Fe-oxides, where the fluctuating redox conditions can account for the lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils (-0.14 ± 0.33 ‰, 2SD) than in the basalt and increasingly lighter  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils with increasing amount of Fe-oxides, or else leached from soils under anoxic conditions leaving heavier  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  in soils (0.34 ± 0.26 ‰, 2SD) than in the basalt. In soil solutions, a limited Fe isotope fractionation in poorly weathered well-drained soils ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.11 \pm 0.12$  ‰) reflects proton-promoted mineral dissolution (Figure 6). Larger Fe isotope fractionation in more weathered poorly drained soils ( $\Delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{solution-soil}} = -0.41 \pm 0.32$  ‰) reflects the presence of Fe mobilised by reductive mineral dissolution and ligand-controlled dissolution, and suggests the formation of Fe-organic complexes in solution under anoxic conditions (Figure 6).

The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  in soils (ranging from -1.32 to -0.38 ‰) decreases relative to the parent basalt (-0.29 ± 0.06 ‰, 2SD) with increasing degree of weathering and the formation of secondary aluminosilicates, and more specifically with the evolution from poorly crystalline aluminosilicates such as allophane to

crystalline clay minerals such as kaolinite. Under oxic conditions and in fluctuating redox conditions, the heavier  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  composition of soil solutions than soils ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}} = 0.92 \pm 0.26 \text{ ‰}$ ) reflects the incorporation of light Si isotopes into secondary aluminosilicates. Under anoxic conditions, a larger  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-soil}}$  ( $1.63 \pm 0.40 \text{ ‰}$ ) points to a succession of processes that preferentially incorporates light Si isotopes, i.e., the cumulative contribution of secondary clay minerals and amorphous silica precipitation. The precipitation of amorphous silica is confirmed and suggests that Si concentration in solution reached supersaturation with respect to amorphous silica due to Al affinity for organic ligands, thereby providing indirect support for the formation of metal-organic complexes in the poorly drained soils consistently with the conclusion based on Fe isotopes.

This study suggests that if the warming of peatlands at high latitude decreases soil drainage, Fe export from soils as Fe-organic complexes will increase. Further study is needed to quantify the implications of such enhanced Fe export from soils on the proportion of colloidal Fe in rivers and hence for Fe transport in rivers.

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## Figure captions

**Figure 1.** Location map of the soil sites (HA, H, BA, GA, V) and the river sites (A3, A4, and HA) in Iceland studied here. Histic Andosol, HA; Histosol, H; Haplic Andosol, BA; Gleyic Andosol, GA; Vitric Andosol, V. Soil types are classified according to the World Reference Base for Soil Resources (IUSS, 2014). The soil map is based on Arnalds (2004) and Arnalds and Gretarsson (2001).

**Figure 2.** The degree of weathering in soils: The HA–H soils, with low Total Reserve in Bases (TRB =  $[\text{Na}] + [\text{Mg}] + [\text{Ca}] + [\text{K}]$ ; Herbillon, 1986; data from Opfergelt et al., 2014) and a high proportion of free iron ( $\text{Fe}_d/\text{Fe}_t$ ) are more weathered than V–BA–GA soils with higher TRB and lower  $\text{Fe}_d/\text{Fe}_t$  ( $\text{Fe}_d$  = Fe extracted by DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $\text{Fe}_t$  = Fe total). Soil acronyms as in Figure 1.

**Figure 3.** (a) The relation between the Fe isotope composition in bulk soils ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD) and the proportion of free iron ( $\text{Fe}_d/\text{Fe}_t$ , with  $\text{Fe}_d$  = Fe extracted by DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $\text{Fe}_t$  = Fe total), the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  of the basalt BIR-1 considered as representative of the parent material is given by the horizontal line for comparison; (b) The relation between the Fe isotope composition of the free iron pool extracted by DCB ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$ , 2SD) and the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison; (c) The relation between the Fe isotope composition of the soil solution ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{soil solution}}$ , 2SD) and the  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison, and the two horizons with the highest Fe soil solution concentrations, H O4 and H O6, are identified (Table 2). Soil acronyms as for Figure 1 (no data available for V).

**Figure 4.** (a) The Si isotope composition in the bulk soils ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD) decreases with increasing degree of soil weathering, as shown by the proportion of free iron ( $\text{Fe}_d/\text{Fe}_t$ , with  $\text{Fe}_d$  = Fe extracted by DCB or dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate;  $\text{Fe}_t$  = Fe total), from V to BA-GA to HA-H. The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  of the parent basalt is given by the horizontal line for comparison. (b) The Si isotope composition of the clay fractions ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$ , 2SD;  $< 2 \mu\text{m}$ ) as a function of the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison. (c) The Si isotope composition of the soil solution ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil solution}}$ , 2SD) as a function of the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ , 2SD; a 1:1 line is provided for comparison, and the two horizons with the highest  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil solution}}$ , H O4 and H O6, are identified (Table 2). Soil acronyms as for Fig. 1 (no data available for V in the clay fraction and in soil solution).

**Figure 5.** (a) Comparison between the main terrestrial Fe isotope variations ( $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$ ) in igneous rocks, soils and rivers in the literature and the present study. (b) Comparison between the main terrestrial Si isotope variations ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ) in igneous rocks, soils, clay fractions, clay fractions from Cameroon with and without Fe-oxides, and soil solutions in the literature and the present study. [1] Beard et al., 2003, [2] Fantle & De Paolo 2004, [3] Emmanuel et al., 2005, [4] Fekiacova et al., 2013, [5] Mansfeldt et al., 2012, [6] Liu et al., 2014, [7] Fekiacova et al., 2017, [8] Thompson et al., 2007, [9] Akerman et al., 2014, [10] Schulz et al., 2016, [11] Wiederhold et al., 2007b, [12] Kiczka et al., 2011, [13] Yesavage et al., 2012, [14] Schuth and Mansfeldt 2015, [15] Garnier et al 2017, [16] Bergquist & Boyle 2006, [17] Mulholland et al., 2015, [18] Iliina et al., 2013, [19] Escoubé et al., 2015, [20] Ingri et al., 2006, [21] review in Opfergelt and Delmelle, 2012, [22] review in Frings et al., 2016. Results expressed as  $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$  in the literature were converted to  $\delta^{57}\text{Fe}$  using the mass-dependent scaling factor of 1.5.

**Figure 6.** Conceptual view (no scale) of the main processes controlling Fe release from soils based on the difference in Fe and Si isotope composition between soil solutions and bulk soils (e.g.,  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{solution-bulk}}$ ).

995  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil}} = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{soil solution}} - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ ). Schematic soil constituents modified from Chorover et al., 2007. Soil  
996 acronyms as for Figure 1.

Table 1

**Table 1.** Soil parameters (pH, carbon and clay content), bulk soil Fe and Si content ( $\text{Fe}_t$ ,  $\text{Si}_t$ ), Fe and Si content in selective extracts (dithionite-citrate-bicarbonate = d, oxalate = o, pyrophosphate = p) in soils. Iron and silicon isotope compositions of the bulk soils, secondary phases (Fe-oxides  $\text{Fe}_d$  from DCB extracts for Fe isotopes, and clay fractions  $<2\mu\text{m}$  for Si isotopes), parent basalt, and grass from the site of HA profile. Soil acronyms as in Fig. 1.

Soil horizon		Depth cm	pH <sub>H2O</sub> <sup>a</sup>	Carbon <sup>a</sup> %	Clay <sup>a</sup> %	Fe <sub>t</sub> <sup>a</sup> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Si <sub>t</sub> <sup>a</sup> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Fe <sub>d</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Fe <sub>o</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Fe <sub>p</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Si <sub>d</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	Si <sub>o</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	C <sub>p</sub> g kg <sup>-1</sup>	$\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ ‰	2SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	$\delta^{57}\text{Fe}_{\text{DCB}}$ ‰	2SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	$\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{bulk soil}}$ ‰	2SD ‰	$\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{clay}}$ ‰	2SD ‰
HA	A1	0-15	5.32	18.52	56.1	165.7	83.4	129.2	41.5	43.5	3.7	8.2	56.6	0.38	0.08	-	-	-1.05	0.09	-1.73	0.10
HA	A2	15-26	4.89	16.94	54.3	98.9	110.7	71.5	31.6	27.0	4.0	15.9	52.3	0.12	0.03	0.25	0.07	-0.97	0.04	-1.64	0.17
HA	Bw1	26-40	4.82	14.49	55.2	175.1	98.0	139.2	70.0	33.1	5.5	13.9	45.0	-0.33	0.07	-0.51	0.07	-1.32	0.05	-1.84	0.15
HA	Bw2	40-57	5.15	16.86	45.5	164.4	97.2	129.8	41.6	32.6	4.7	11.5	47.1	-0.36	0.14	-0.43	0.07	-1.00	0.07	-2.04	0.14
HA	O1	57-67	4.44	28.71	53.8	55.7	55.6	50.9	25.6	18.7	4.5	11.0	74.0	-0.16	0.15	-0.19	0.07	-0.77	0.12	-1.11	0.14
HA	redox	67-83	4.27	12.79	-	57.6	185.4	14.0	8.3	3.7	2.2	11.5	30.2	-0.05	0.05	-0.71	0.07	-0.42	0.14	-	-
HA	O2	83+	3.93	42.73	55.3	42.9	32.0	40.9	19.1	16.0	1.9	2.4	82.5	-0.60	0.07	-0.79	0.07	-0.85	0.04	-	-
H	O1	0-13	6.18	21.00	52.3	120.3	100.4	99.5	39.8	11.5	3.7	4.1	29.6	0.67	0.07	-0.11	0.04	-0.82	0.09	-	-
H	O2	13-26	5.10	22.94	8.4	83.8	94.9	57.9	22.6	18.2	2.4	3.0	30.3	0.56	0.07	0.71	0.02	-1.08	0.05	-	-
H	O3	26-40	4.57	18.62	38.2	141.7	91.5	111.4	34.6	53.1	4.5	11.1	49.5	-0.02	0.02	-0.05	0.07	-0.73	0.15	-1.42	0.15
H	O4	52-63	4.66	10.32	44.4	101.6	157.6	79.1	19.6	35.5	3.4	7.6	30.6	0.12	0.07	0.16	0.05	-0.47	0.08	-0.97	0.15
H	O5	63-72	4.35	29.27	70.9	140.7	40.9	-	27.8	69.1	4.4	3.8	59.7	0.30	0.06	-	-	-0.68	0.06	-	-
H	O6	72+	4.56	30.39	42.7	86.6	48.8	-	23.0	41.8	3.5	5.9	57.8	0.44	0.01	-	-	-0.69	0.09	-	-
BA	A1	0-21	6.35	7.29	33.2	111.9	158.1	53.4	45.9	6.8	2.6	17.9	22.4	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.07	-0.53	0.03	-1.07	0.18
BA	A2	21-40	6.40	7.92	29.7	117.2	151.8	62.9	50.5	8.3	2.9	18.3	21.3	0.12	0.10	0.00	0.07	-0.72	0.07	-	-
BA	Bw1	40-52	6.50	6.47	37.2	122.7	150.2	58.3	43.1	6.3	3.2	15.4	16.6	0.14	0.04	-	-	-0.67	0.08	-	-
BA	Bw2	52-96	6.53	7.25	41.0	126.1	151.8	74.9	57.3	7.1	4.2	21.7	19.1	0.17	0.10	0.19	0.07	-0.61	0.06	-1.22	0.16
BA	Bw3/C	96+	6.24	5.71	-	127.9	153.4	59.4	49.7	6.9	3.3	21.0	20.7	0.12	0.06	-0.01	0.07	-0.57	0.10	-	-
GA	A1	0-12	6.22	9.51	37.1	104.5	135.4	52.8	43.4	6.8	3.7	16.3	25.4	0.10	0.04	0.05	0.07	-0.63	0.06	-1.11	0.14
GA	A2	12-29	6.30	6.20	41.2	119.2	149.9	64.4	50.0	5.1	4.4	20.4	16.7	0.10	0.07	-	-	-0.61	0.05	-	-
GA	Bw1	29-43	6.33	6.86	38.9	116.7	145.7	59.6	37.7	3.8	3.1	24.4	15.8	0.14	0.05	-0.03	0.07	-0.69	0.09	-0.85	0.13
GA	Bw2	43-56	6.34	6.76	36.3	105.5	155.5	49.6	27.3	2.4	3.0	25.7	14.9	-	-	-1.07	0.04	-0.58	0.06	-	-
GA	C	56-64	6.57	2.70	-	119.2	189.0	30.6	23.4	1.6	2.6	12.3	5.2	-0.09	0.05	-	-	-0.55	0.08	-	-
GA	2Bw1	64+	6.44	3.26	22.9	59.2	176.6	11.4	10.7	0.6	3.6	35.2	7.5	0.01	0.05	-0.23	0.02	-0.59	0.02	-0.63	0.09
V	A	0-9	7.77	0.32	4.6	116.2	203.2	18.3	22.7	0.6	2.9	14.8	2.1	-	-	-	-	-0.40	0.06	-	-
V	B/C	9-33	8.20	0.26	4.6	122.2	196.8	32.2	41.9	0.3	4.0	23.7	0.9	-	-	-	-	-0.47	0.08	-	-
V	C	33+	7.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.38	0.09	-	-
Parent basalt			-	-	-	103.8	228.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.29	0.06	-	-
Icelandic grass			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.09	0.03	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>a</sup> data from Opfergelt et al., 2014; <sup>b</sup> in *italic* : for analyses where there was only enough Fe for 1 replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used

Table 2

**Table 2.** Characterization of the soil solutions: pH in solution, iron and silicon concentrations in solution, and iron and silicon isotope compositions of the soil solutions. Soil acronyms as in Fig. 1.

Soil horizon		Depth cm	pH <sub>solution</sub>	Fe <sup>a</sup> mg l <sup>-1</sup>	Si <sup>a</sup> mg l <sup>-1</sup>	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe ‰	2 SD <sup>b</sup> ‰	δ <sup>30</sup> Si ‰	2 SD ‰
HA	A1	0-15	5.05	0.027	9.6	-0.23	0.10	0.37	0.13
HA	Bw1	26-40	4.67	0.023	9.6	-0.08	0.16	-0.19	0.07
HA	O1	57-67	3.99	0.032	24.2	-0.71	0.08	0.27	0.11
HA	redox	67-83	3.98	0.036	26.5	-0.28	<i>0.07</i>	0.12	0.02
HA	O2	83+	3.95	0.036	30.3	-1.36	0.08	-0.08	0.08
H	O1	0-13	4.88	0.282	10.5	-0.03	0.05	0.14	0.12
H	O2	13-26	5.47	0.059	5.3	0.38	<i>0.07</i>	0.15	0.13
H	O3	26-40	5.15	0.193	17.4	-	-	0.34	0.11
H	O4	52-63	-	15.250	19.2	-0.48	0.06	0.88	0.11
H	O5	63-72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H	O6	72+	-	19.980	18.8	0.14	0.03	1.22	0.16
BA	A1	0-21	-	0.012	5.9	-0.12	0.03	0.58	0.12
BA	A2	21-40	5.84	0.010	3.5	0.14	0.09	0.27	0.10
BA	Bw1	40-52	5.88	0.034	3.6	-0.01	0.07	-0.08	0.13
BA	Bw2	52-96	5.96	0.008	4.4	-	-	0.15	0.08
BA	Bw3/C	96+	5.46	0.004	5.0	-	-	-0.07	0.06
GA	A1	0-12	-	0.014	5.7	-	-	0.56	0.10
GA	A2	12-29	5.77	0.045	7.5	-	-	0.05	0.12
GA	Bw1	29-43	-	0.015	8.1	-	-	0.27	0.12
GA	Bw2	43-56	5.6	0.011	12.0	0.06	<i>0.07</i>	0.25	0.09
GA	2Bw1	64+	5.46	0.005	12.4	-	-	0.25	0.07

<sup>a</sup> data from Opfergelt et al., 2014; <sup>b</sup> in *italic* : for analyses where there was only enough Fe for one replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used



Table 3

**Table 3.** Main characteristics of river water samples: location, temperature, pH, conductivity, dissolved Fe concentration (<0.2µm), proportion of colloidal Fe (10kD-0.2µm) in the dissolved phase, iron isotope compositions of the dissolved and colloidal phases.

Sample name	Location	Latitude	Longitude	Temp. °C	pH	Conductivity µS cm <sup>-1</sup>	[Fe] <sub>dissolved</sub> (<0.2µm) µg l <sup>-1</sup>	% Fe colloidal (10kD-0.2µm)	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe <sub>dissolved</sub> ‰	2SD <sup>a</sup> ‰	δ <sup>57</sup> Fe <sub>colloid</sub> ‰	2SD <sup>a</sup> ‰
A3	Grimsa	N64°35'57.6"	W21°34'75.3"	9.2	8.0	61	11.7	56	-0.30	0.03	-0.29	0.01
A4	Hvita (Ferjukot)	N64°36''19.9"	W21°42'48.1"	7.2	8.4	52	6.0	26	-0.46	<i>0.07</i>	-0.14	<i>0.07</i>
HA river	Hestur	N64°34'28.1"	W21°35'41.9"	-	-	-	6.7	-	-0.89	0.01	-	-

<sup>a</sup>in *italic* : for analyses where there was only enough Fe for 1 replicate, the 2SD of the in-house FeCl salt standard measured during the course of analysis is used

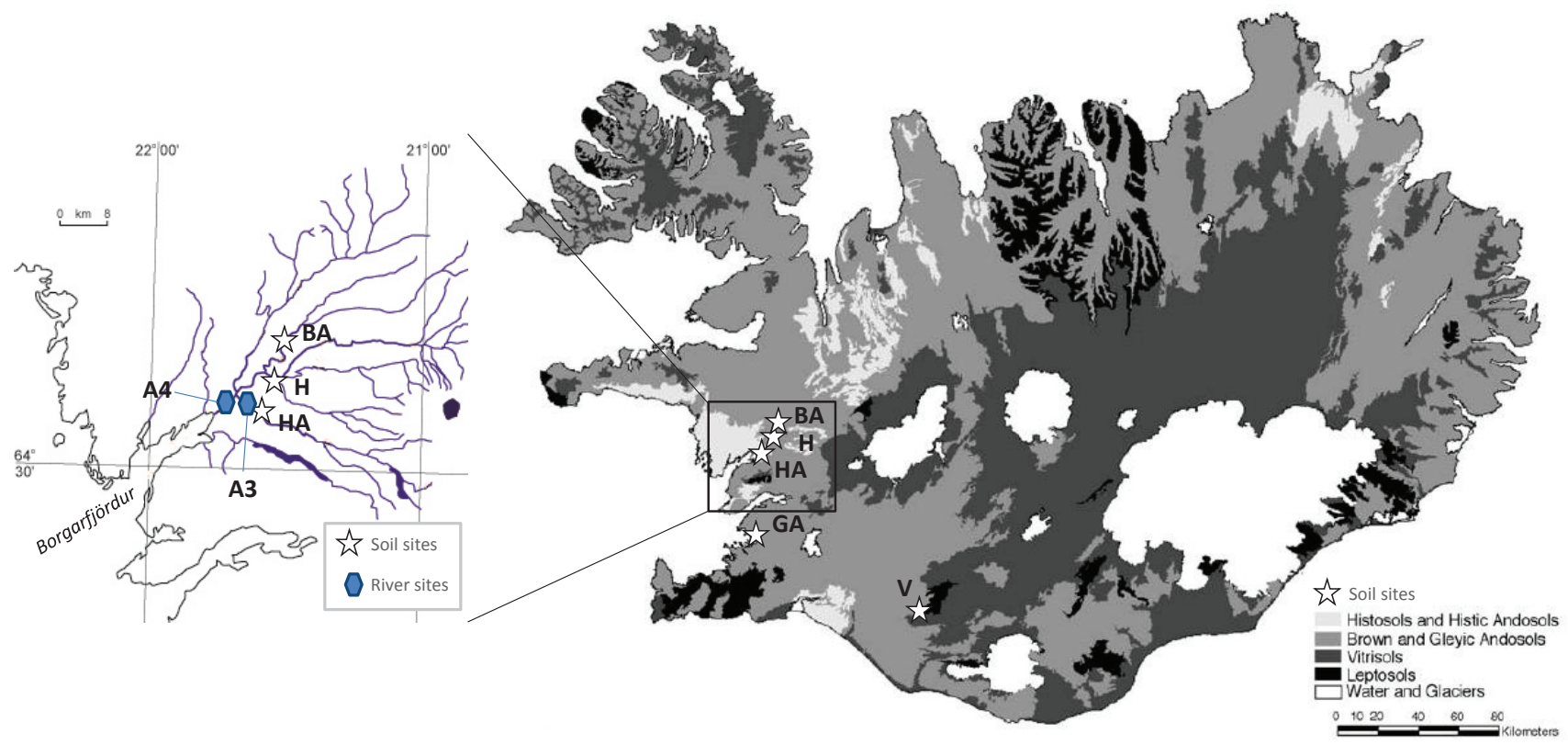


Figure 1.

Figure 2

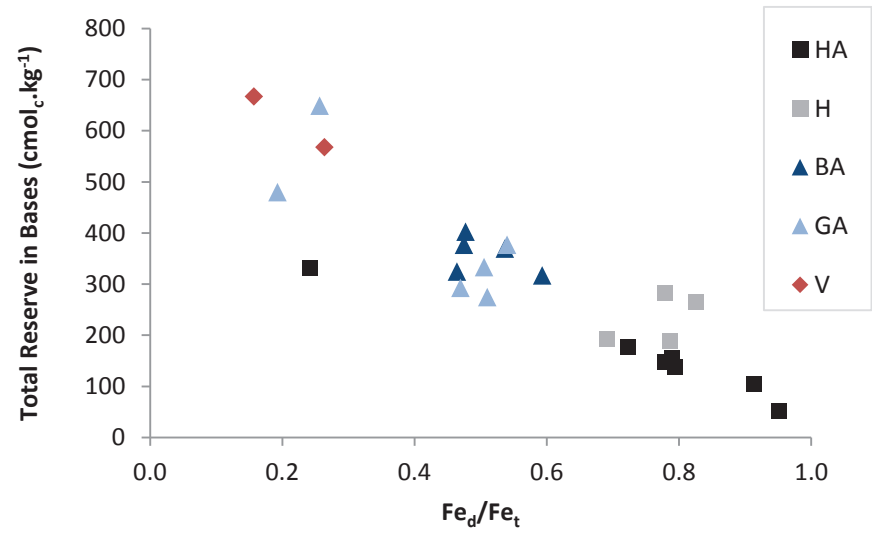


Figure 2.

Figure 3

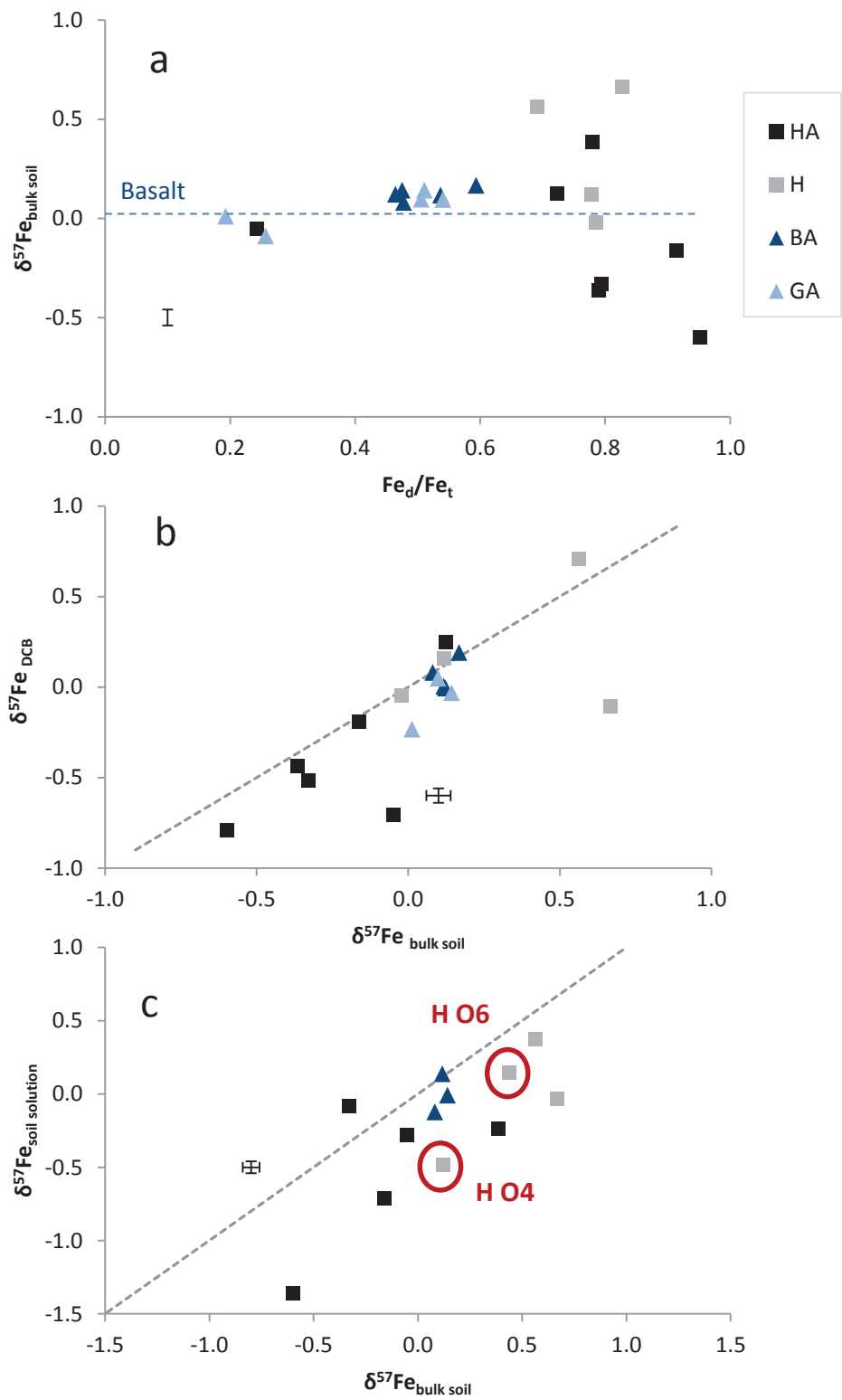


Figure 3.

Figure 4

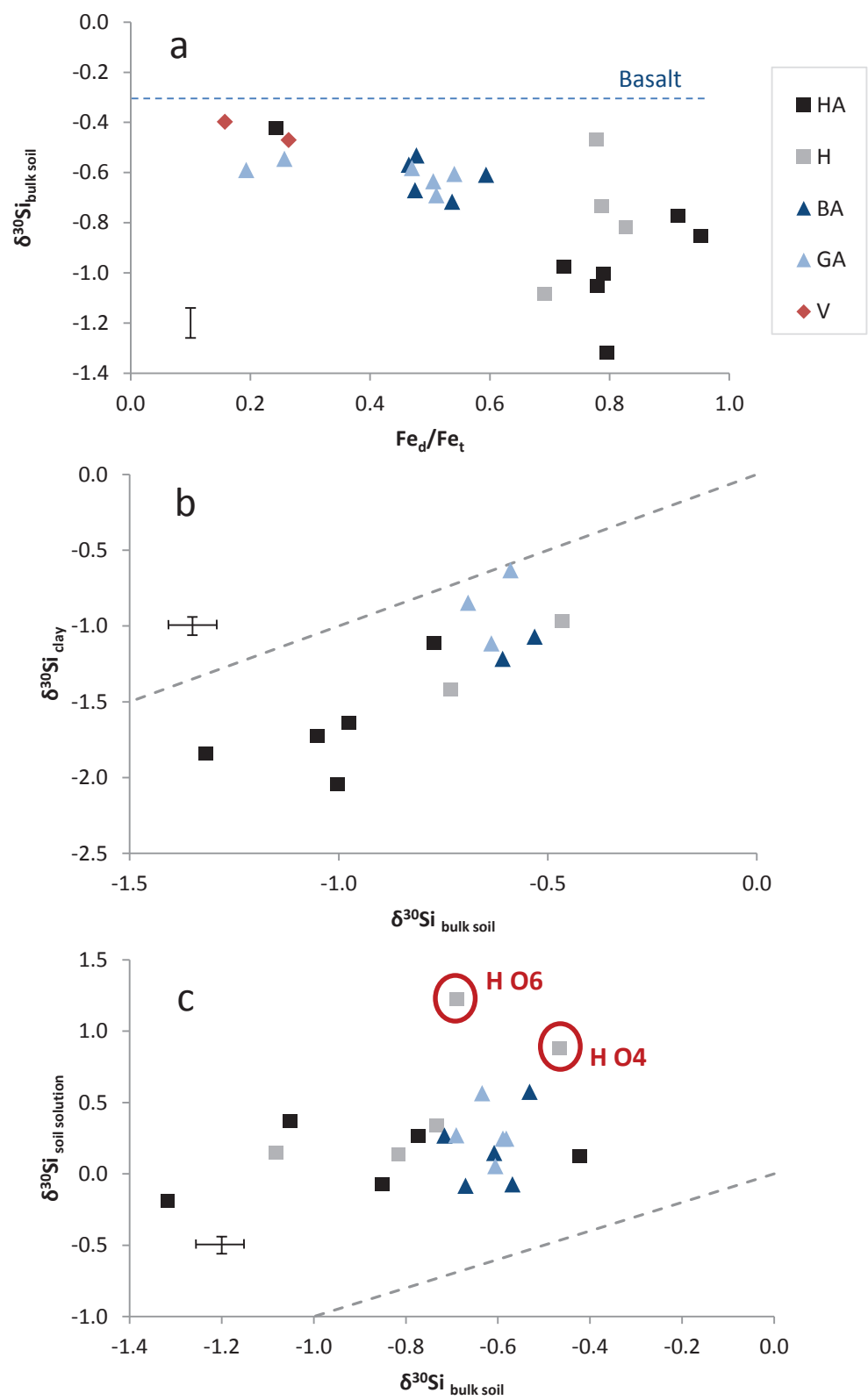


Figure 4.

Figure 5

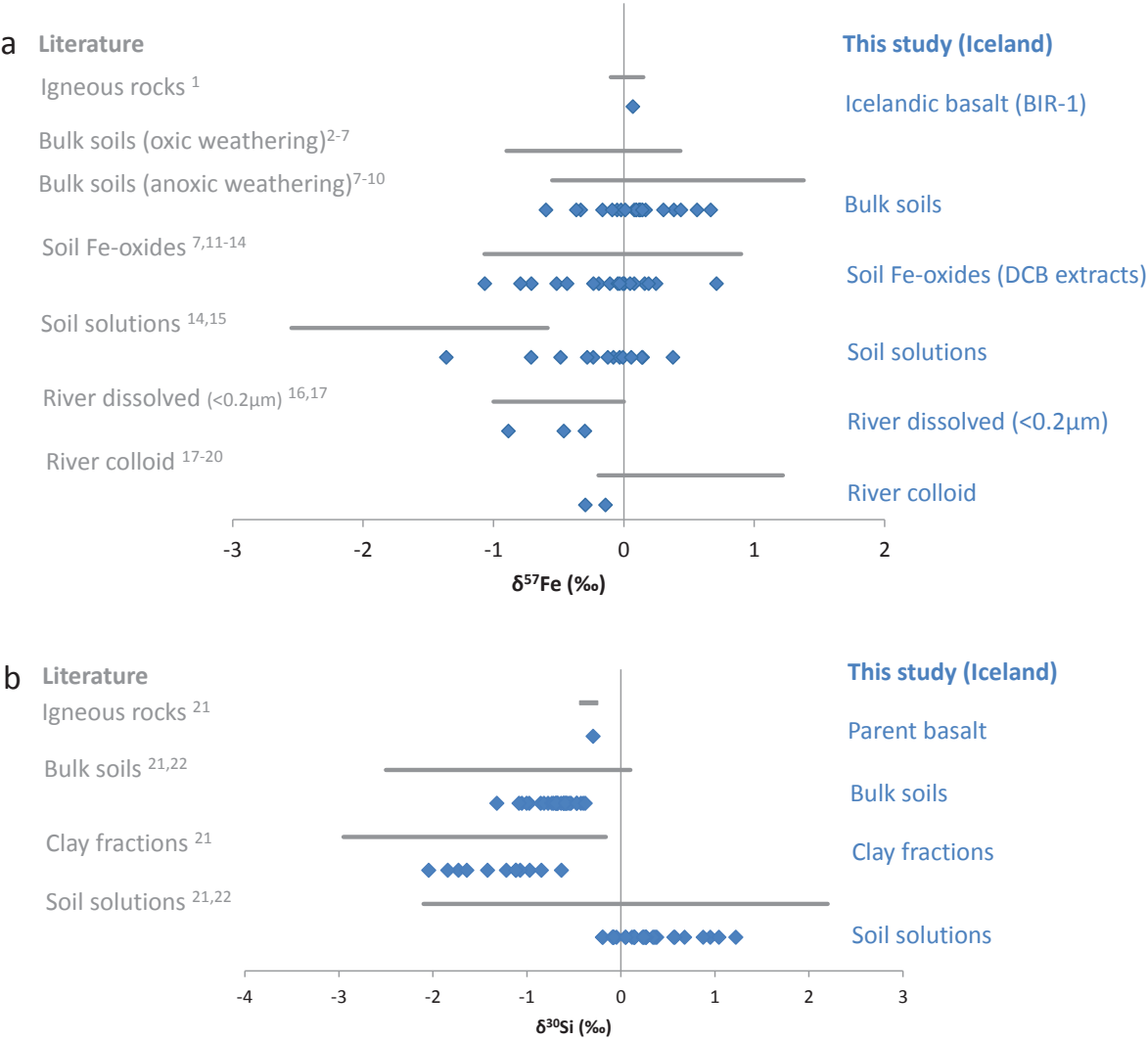


Figure 5.



Figure 6

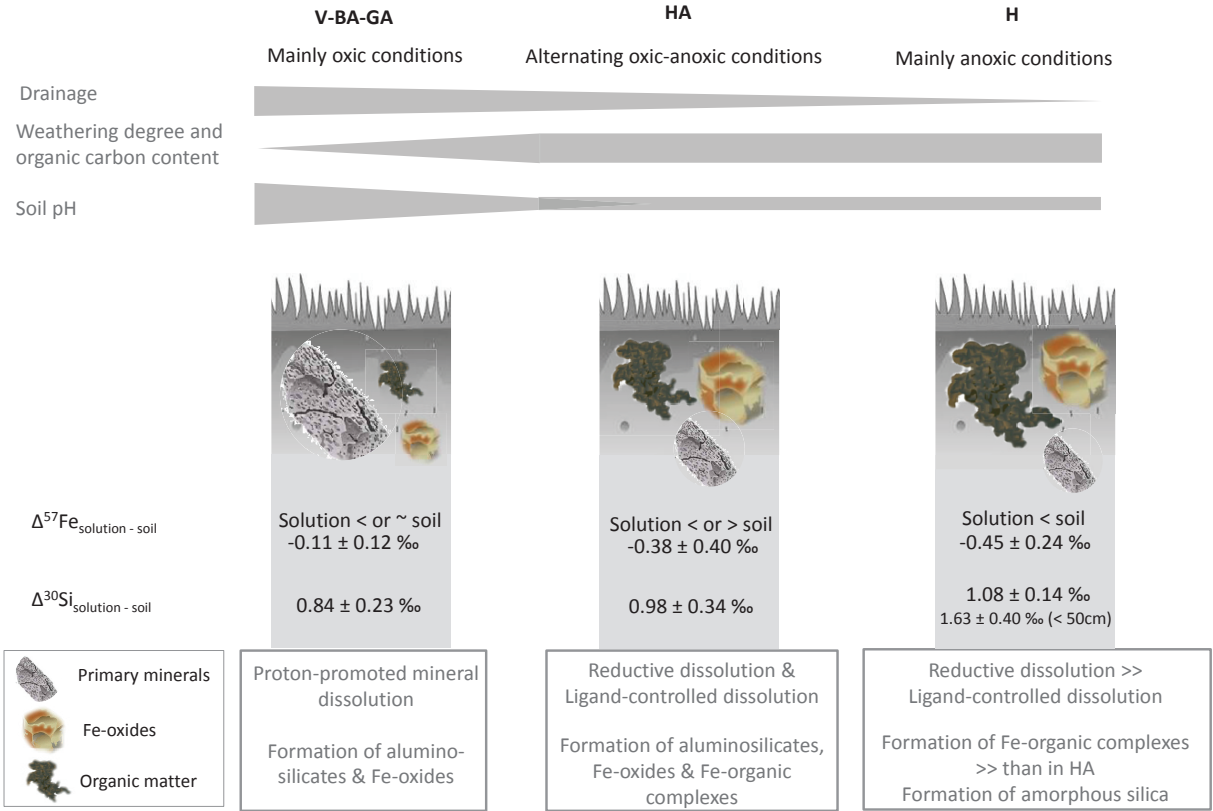


Figure 6.